

We claim:

1. An electronic patient healthcare system for guiding a patient along a treatment pathway, related to a medical event, by educating and preparing the patient for the medical event and post-event recovery, comprising:

a healthcare information provider system including a storage device and electronically displayable files containing health information associated with the medical event and retrievably stored on said storage device, the storage device further including a registered patient database for storing information regarding patients being guided by the electronic patient healthcare system and a registered practitioner database for storing information regarding practitioners treating the patients being guided by the electronic patient healthcare system; and

a patient terminal device in electronic communication with said healthcare information provider system and including an input device and a display device adapted to display said electronically displayable files;

wherein said electronically displayable files include at least one pre-event set of electronically displayable files containing health information for preparing and educating the patient for the medical event, and at least one post-event set of electronically displayable files containing health information for preparing and educating the patient for post-event recovery so as to guide the patient along the treatment pathway, at least one of the pre-event and post-event sets of files including a task file that instructs the patient to perform a predetermined task, the predetermined task including at least two of scheduling an appointment with a medical professional, purchasing a medical product, taking a medical quiz, and evaluating at least one of a medical practitioner and a medical service facility.

2. The system of claim 1, wherein said electronically displayable files include a single electronically displayable file including a treatment pathway timeline display, said single electronic displayable file including a treatment pathway timeline display comprising a plurality of time-sequenced phase images corresponding to time-sequenced phases of health information thereby illustrating the treatment pathway.

3. The system of claim 2, wherein each of said plurality of time-sequenced phase images include at least one electronic link to one of the pre-event set of files and the post-event set of files, and the patient can access the health information of a particular time-sequenced phase by interacting with the corresponding time-sequenced phase image.

4. The system of claim 1, wherein the task file includes a patient confirmation subfile that requires the patient to interactively confirm completion of the predetermined task using the input device of the patient terminal device and communicate the confirmation with the healthcare information provider system.

5. The system of claim 1, wherein at least one of the pre-event and post-event sets of files includes a calendar file that displays a schedule of time specific events associated with the treatment pathway, said calendar file adapted to be modified by the patient using the input device of the patient terminal device.

6. The system of claim 1, further including an electronically displayable duplicate account file containing input fields for receiving account information relating to an authorized user to create a duplicate account for permitting the authorized user to access and modify the patient's treatment pathway.

7. The system of claim 1, wherein each of a patient's time-sequenced phase images is adapted to be modified by a medical practitioner treating the patient being guided by the electronic patient healthcare system.

8. A system for displaying health information capable of guiding a patient along a treatment pathway, related to a medical event, by educating and preparing the patient for the medical event and post-event recovery, comprising:

a healthcare information provider system including a storage device and electronically displayable files containing health information associated with the medical event and retrievably stored on said storage device; and

a patient terminal device including an input device and a display device adapted to display said electronically displayable files;

wherein said electronically displayable files include a single electronically displayable file including a treatment pathway timeline display comprising a plurality of time-sequenced phase images corresponding to time-sequenced phases of health information, each of said time-sequenced phase images providing access to at least one of a pre-event set of electronically displayable files containing health information for preparing and educating the patient for the medical event and a post-event set of electronically displayable files containing health information for preparing and educating the patient for post-event recovery so as to guide the patient along the treatment pathway.

9. The system of claim 8, wherein each of said plurality of time-sequenced phase images include at least one electronic link to one of the pre-event set of files and the post-event set of files, and the patient can access the health information of a particular time-sequenced phase by interacting with the corresponding time-sequenced phase image.

10. The system of claim 8, wherein at least one of the pre-event and post-event sets of files includes a task file that instructs the patient to perform a predetermined task.

11. The system of claim 8, wherein the predetermined task includes at least three of reading a medical information file, taking medication, scheduling an appointment with a medical professional, purchasing a medical product, taking a medical quiz, and evaluating at least one of a medical practitioner and a medical service facility.

12. The system of claim 8, wherein the predetermined task includes at least two of scheduling an appointment with a medical professional, purchasing a medical product, taking a medical quiz, and evaluating at least one of a medical practitioner and a medical service facility.

13. A method for guiding a patient along a treatment pathway associated with a medical event by providing health information to educate and prepare the patient for the medical event and post-event recovery, comprising the steps of:

generating, based on the medical event of the patient, at least one pre-event set of electronically displayable files containing health information for preparing and educating the

patient for the medical event, and at least one post-event set of electronically displayable files containing health information for preparing and educating the patient for post-event recovery;

displaying a single electronically displayable file including a treatment pathway timeline display comprising a plurality of time-sequenced phase images corresponding to time-sequenced phases of health information to illustrate the treatment pathway, each of said time-sequenced phase images providing access to at least one of a pre-event set of electronically displayable files containing health information for preparing and educating the patient for the medical event and a post-event set of electronically displayable files containing health information for preparing and educating the patient for post-event recovery so as to guide the patient along the treatment pathway; and

permitting the patient to view the treatment pathway timeline display and access the health information of a particular time-sequenced phase by interacting with the corresponding time-sequenced phase image.

14. The method of claim 13, further including the steps of providing the patient with a medical practitioner code designating the medical practitioner conducting the medical event and requiring the patient to input the medical practitioner code into an electronically displayable file containing a code input field and transmitting the code to the healthcare information provider system.

15. The method of claim 13, wherein at least one of the pre-event and post-event sets of files includes a task file that instructs the patient to perform a predetermined task.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein the predetermined task includes at least three of reading a medical information file, taking medication, scheduling an appointment with a medical professional, purchasing a medical product, taking a medical quiz, and evaluating at least one of a medical practitioner and a medical service facility.

17. The method of claim 13, wherein at least one of the pre-event and post-event sets of files includes a calendar file that displays a schedule of time specific events associated with the treatment pathway, said calendar file adapted to be modified by the patient using the input device of the patient terminal device.

18. The method of claim 13, further including the step of providing an electronically displayable duplicate account file containing input fields for receiving account information relating to an authorized user to create a duplicate account for permitting the authorized user to access and modify the patient's treatment pathway.

19. An information storage media, comprising:

instructions for generating, based on the medical event of the patient, at least one pre-event set of electronically displayable files containing health information for preparing and educating the patient for the medical event, and at least one post-event set of electronically displayable files containing health information for preparing and educating the patient for post-event recovery;

instructions for displaying a single electronically displayable file including a treatment pathway timeline display comprising a plurality of time-sequenced phase images corresponding to time-sequenced phases of health information to illustrate the treatment pathway, each of said time-sequenced phase images providing access to at least one of a pre-event set of electronically displayable files containing health information for preparing and educating the patient for the medical event and a post-event set of electronically displayable files containing health information for preparing and educating the patient for post-event recovery so as to guide the patient along the treatment pathway; and

instructions for generating and displaying an access file for permitting the patient to view the treatment pathway timeline display and access the health information of a particular time-sequenced phase by interacting with the corresponding time-sequenced phase image.

20. The information storage media of claim 19, further including instructions providing an electronically displayable file containing a code input field for receiving a medical practitioner code and transmitting the code to the healthcare information provider system.

21. The information storage media of claim 20, wherein at least one of the pre-event and post-event sets of files includes a task file that instructs the patient to perform a predetermined task.

22. The information storage media of claim 21, wherein the predetermined task includes at least three of reading a medical information file, taking medication, scheduling an appointment with a medical professional, purchasing a medical product, taking a medical quiz, and evaluating at least one of a medical practitioner and a medical service facility.

22. The information storage media of claim 20, wherein at least one of the pre-event and post-event sets of files includes a calendar file that displays a schedule of time specific events associated with the treatment pathway, said calendar file adapted to be modified by the patient using the input device of the patient terminal device.

23. The information storage media of claim 20, further including instructions for displaying an electronically displayable duplicate account file containing input fields for receiving account information relating to an authorized user to create a duplicate account for permitting the authorized user to access and modify the patient's treatment pathway.